

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

FAYE IRENE GUENTHER,

Plaintiff,

v.

JOSEPH H. EMMONS, and OSPREY
FIELD CONSULTING, LLC,

Defendants.

CASE NO: 2:22-CV-0272-TOR

JURY TRIAL SCHEDULING ORDER

A telephonic scheduling conference was held in the above-entitled matter on August 30, 2023. James G. McGuinness and Aaron M. Streepy appeared on behalf of Plaintiff. John A. DiLorenzo, Jr., Sara A. Fairchild, and Ambika Kumar appeared on behalf of Defendant. The Court reviewed the Joint Status Certificate (ECF No. 28), heard from counsel, and is fully informed. **IT IS ORDERED:**

General Court Procedures

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(4), the dates set forth in this Order may be amended **only** by Order of the Court and upon a showing of good cause. Pursuant

1 to Fed. R. Civ. P. 29, the parties may stipulate to other procedures governing or
2 limiting discovery, except the dates set forth in this Order.

3 Counsel are to review and employ Local Civil Rule (LCivR) 83.1 (Civility)
4 and Washington Rule of Professional Conduct 3.4 (Fairness To Opposing Party
5 And Counsel).

6 **1. Mediation**

7 If parties elect to proceed to mediation, it should be completed as early as
8 possible to avoid the unnecessary expenditure of judicial resources.

9 **2. Rule 26(a)(1) Exchange**

10 If not already accomplished, the parties shall disclose their Fed. R. Civ. P.
11 26(a)(1) material promptly.

12 **3. Motions to Amend Pleadings or Add Parties**

13 Any motion to amend the pleadings or add parties shall be filed
14 no later than **October 31, 2023**.

15 **4. Rule 26(a)(2) Expert Identification and Reports**

16 The parties are cautioned that failure to timely identify experts or provide
17 reports in accordance with Rule 26 and this scheduling order may result in
18 exclusion of such testimony absent good reason. *See Wong v. Regents of the Univ.*
19 *of Cal.*, 410 F.3d 1052 (9th Cir. 2005).

1 **A. Plaintiff - Initial Expert Disclosures**

2 Each Plaintiff shall identify its experts and serve those experts' Rule
3 26(a)(2) reports on all other parties no later than **April 5, 2024**. Each Plaintiff
4 shall also provide dates for which those experts can be available for deposition.

5 **B. Defendant - Initial Expert Disclosure**

6 Each Defendant shall identify its experts and serve those experts' Rule
7 26(a)(2) reports on all other parties no later than **May 15, 2024**. Each Defendant
8 shall also provide dates for which those experts can be available for deposition.

9 **C. Plaintiff - Rebuttal Expert Disclosure**

10 Each Plaintiff shall identify its rebuttal experts and serve those experts' Rule
11 26(a)(2) reports on all other parties no later than **June 5, 2024**. Each Plaintiff shall
12 also provide dates for which those experts can be available for deposition.

13 **5. Discovery Cutoff**

14 **A. Generally**

15 All discovery, including depositions and perpetuation depositions, shall be
16 completed by **June 26, 2024** ("Discovery Cutoff"). To be timely, discovery
17 requests must be served sufficiently in advance of the deadline to allow for timely
18 response by the cutoff date. The parties shall not file discovery, except those
19 portions necessary to support motions or objections.
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1 **B. Depositions, Interrogatories, Requests for**
2 **Production/Admission**

3 Unless otherwise stipulated, no more than 10 depositions up to seven hours
4 long, may be taken by the plaintiffs, or by the defendants, or by third-party
5 defendants. Fed. R. Civ. P. 30(a)(2)(A) and (d)(1).

6 Unless otherwise stipulated, any one party may serve no more than 25 written
7 interrogatories, including discrete subparts, on any other party. Fed. R. Civ. P.
8 33(a)(1) and advisory committee notes (1993) explaining “discrete subparts”.

9 Unless otherwise stipulated, any one party may serve no more than 30
10 requests for production, including discrete subparts, on any other party. LCivR
11 34(d).

12 Unless otherwise stipulated, any one party may serve no more than 15
13 requests for admission, including discrete subparts, on any other party. LCivR
14 36(c).

15 A party needing relief from these limitations should timely seek relief from
16 the Court by motion.

17 **C. Protective Orders**

18 Any stipulation or motion for a confidentiality agreement or protective order
19 must be timely filed so as not to delay the discovery process or the Court’s
20 deadlines. If confidential records are attached to court filings, “compelling
reasons” must be shown to seal records attached to a dispositive motion and “good

1 cause” must be shown to seal records attached to a non-dispositive motion.

2 *Kamakana v. City and County of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1178-80 (9th Cir.
3 2006).

4 **D. Motions to Compel**

5 To avoid wasted time and expense, the parties may contact chambers to
6 schedule a telephonic conference to obtain an expedited ruling on discovery
7 disputes. Motions to compel seeking sanctions shall be filed in writing.

8 **6. Dispositive and *Daubert* Motions**

9 All dispositive and *Daubert* motions shall be filed on or before **July 3, 2024**.
10 Responses and replies to dispositive and *Daubert* motions shall comply with
11 LCivR 7. No supplemental responses or supplemental replies to any dispositive or
12 *Daubert* motion may be filed without Court permission.

13 Dispositive and *Daubert* motions shall be noted for hearing at least **fifty (50)**
14 **days** after the date of filing.

15 **7. Motion Practice**

16 **A. Notice of Hearing**

17 Parties are to comply with LCivR 7(i) when noting motions for hearing. If
18 oral argument is sought by a party, counsel shall first confer and determine an
19 agreeable hearing date and time, and then contact chambers to confirm the Court’s
20 availability for the agreed upon hearing date and time. All non-dispositive motion

1 hearings shall be conducted telephonically, unless in-person argument is approved
2 by the Court. The parties may use cellular phones for telephonic hearings provided
3 the caller is in an area with adequate cellular service and minimal background
4 noise. Neither cell phones nor landline phones may be used in speaker mode. All
5 phones must be muted unless addressing the Court. At the Court's discretion,
6 dispositive motion hearings in which oral argument has been requested may be set
7 for either in-person or telephonic appearance.

8 **B. Motions to Expedite**

9 If there is a need to have a motion heard on an expedited basis, the party must
10 file a motion to expedite and an accompanying memorandum (or declaration)
11 establishing the need for an expedited hearing. The motion shall be noted for
12 hearing, without oral argument, no earlier than seven (7) days after the filing of the
13 motion, or two (2) days after the date of filing with prior permission from the
14 Court. Pursuant to local rule, motions (including stipulated motions) may **not** be
15 noted for hearing for the same they are filed.

16 **C. Citing Previously-Filed Documents**

17 All references to a previously filed document shall cite to the electronic case
18 filing (ECF) record number and page number within that ECF record, in the
19 following format, "ECF No. __ at __." Such documents shall not be attached as
20 exhibits.

D. Reliance on Deposition Testimony

When a party relies on deposition testimony to support a position it takes in support or opposition to an issue, that party shall provide the Court with the pertinent excerpts of the deposition testimony relied upon and shall cite to page and line numbers of the deposition it believes supports its position. *See generally* LCivR 56(c). Submission of the entire deposition and/or failure to cite to specific portions of the deposition may result in the submission being stricken from the record. *See Orr v. Bank of America*, 285 F.3d 764, 774-75 (9th Cir. 2002).

E. Supplemental Responses or Replies

No supplemental responses or supplemental replies to any motion may be filed unless the Court grants a motion to file such documents.

F. Motions to Reconsider

Motions to reconsider are disfavored. Motions must show manifest error in the prior ruling or reveal new facts or legal authority which could not have been brought to the Court's attention earlier. The motion shall be noted for expedited hearing without oral argument seven days after it is filed. No response to a motion for reconsideration need be filed unless requested by the Court. No motion for reconsideration will be granted without such a request by the Court.

1 **G. Decisions on Motions**

2 The parties may call to inquire about the status of a decision on a motion if
3 the Court has not issued an order within **thirty (30) days after** the hearing on said
4 motion.

5 **8. Witness/Exhibit Lists**

6 Witness/Exhibit lists shall be filed and served and exhibits made available for
7 inspection or copies provided to the parties on or before **August 14, 2024**.

8 **A. Witness Lists**

9 Witness lists shall include a brief description of the witness, a brief summary
10 of the witness' anticipated testimony, whether the witness will be called as an
11 expert, and any known trial date/time conflicts the witness may have.

12 **B. Exhibit Lists**

13 Exhibit lists shall include a brief description of the exhibit. All exhibits shall
14 be pre-marked; Plaintiffs' exhibits shall be numbered 1-499; Defendants' exhibits
15 shall be numbered 500-999. Exhibits shall be marked in the lower right corner of
16 the exhibit when practicable.

17 **C. Objections**

18 Objections to witnesses/exhibits shall be filed and served on or before **August**
19 **21, 2024, AND SHALL BE HEARD AT THE PRETRIAL CONFERENCE.** All
20 objections to witnesses shall set forth a legal basis and explanation for the

1 objection. Objections to an exhibit or portion thereof, shall be accompanied by a
2 full and complete copy of the exhibit in question and a short legal explanation for
3 the objection. The party seeking the admission of the witness or exhibit has five
4 (5) days, excluding federal holidays and weekends, to file a response to the
5 opposing party's objection; no reply shall be filed.

6 **9. Deposition Designations**

7 **A. Generally**

8 Designation of substantive, as opposed to impeachment, deposition or prior
9 testimony to be used at trial shall be highlighted in yellow by Plaintiff or in blue by
10 Defendant in a complete transcript of the deposition or prior testimony and served
11 but not filed on or before **August 14, 2024**.

12 **B. Cross-Designations**

13 Cross-designations shall be highlighted in yellow by Plaintiff or in blue by
14 Defendant in the transcript containing the opposing party's initial designations and
15 shall be served but not filed on or before **August 21, 2024**.

16 **C. Objections**

17 All objections to designated deposition or prior testimony and the legal bases
18 for the objections, shall be filed and served on or before **August 28, 2024**. Any
19 designated deposition or prior testimony objected to shall be underlined in black in
20 a complete yellow/blue highlighted copy of the deposition/prior testimony

1 transcript described above. A paper copy of the underlined document shall be filed
2 and served with the objections. The party seeking admission of the testimony has
3 five (5) days, excluding federal holidays and weekends, to file a response; no reply
4 shall be filed. If the deposition was videotaped, and the videotape is to be used at
5 trial, the party seeking to use the videotaped deposition shall indicate the relevant
6 portion on both the written transcript and the videotape. Similarly, objections shall
7 be made on the written transcript as explained above along with the applicable time
8 stamp on the video tape noted. All objections to deposition and prior testimony
9 designations shall be heard and resolved at the pretrial conference with the
10 videotape available for display.

11 **10. Motions in Limine**

12 All unresolved substantive or evidentiary issues that may foreseeably arise
13 during trial shall be addressed by motions in limine to be filed and served on or
14 before **August 21, 2024**. Such motions will be addressed and resolved at the
15 pretrial conference. However, motions in limine may not reargue issues already
16 decided by the Court.

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1 **11. Pretrial Order**

2 **A. Generally**

3 A joint proposed pretrial order prepared in accordance with LCivR 16(e) shall
4 be filed on or before **September 11, 2024**, and a copy e-mailed, in Microsoft Word
5 format, to “riceorders@waed.uscourts.gov”.

6 **B. Exhibit List**

7 The list of exhibits contained in the Joint Proposed Pretrial Order shall reflect
8 the exhibit marking scheme described above. In preparing the Joint Proposed
9 Pretrial Order, the parties shall confer regarding duplicative exhibits and determine
10 which party will submit such exhibits for trial.

11 **12. Trial Briefs, *Voir Dire*, and Jury Instructions**

12 **A. Generally**

13 Trial briefs, requested *voir dire*, and jointly proposed jury instructions shall be
14 filed and served on or before **September 11, 2024**.

15 **B. Trial Brief Length**

16 Trial briefs shall not exceed twenty (20) pages without prior court approval.
17 To obtain court approval, a party must file a motion to file an overlength brief,
18 demonstrating good cause why supplemental briefing is necessary.

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C. Jury Instructions

The parties' jointly proposed jury instructions shall include a table of contents, preliminary instructions, final substantive instructions, and a verdict form. The instructions shall be sequentially numbered and include a citation of authority for each. The instructions shall, at a minimum, include instructions regarding the elements of each claim or defense, the relief sought, and otherwise comply with LCivR 51(a). A party proposing a Jury Instruction that differs from a Ninth Circuit Model Civil Jury Instruction should submit a memorandum analyzing cases to support the modification.

D. Individually Proposed Jury Instructions

If the parties are unable to agree on certain instructions, they are to submit individually proposed jury instructions no later than the date the jointly proposed instructions are due. All individually submitted proposed jury instructions must adhere to the format described above and not repeat the jointly proposed instructions.

E. Objections

Any objections to the opposing party's individually submitted proposed instructions must be filed no later than five (5) days, excluding federal holidays and weekends, after the individual proposed instructions were filed. All objections

1 shall set forth the basis for the objection and briefly explain why the instruction in
2 question should not be used or should be altered.

3 **F. Courtesy Copies**

4 Counsel are instructed to e-mail courtesy copies of their **jointly** and
5 **individually** proposed jury instructions, in Microsoft Word format, to
6 “riceorders@waed.uscourts.gov”.

7 **13. Pretrial Conference**

8 An in-person pretrial conference will be held on **September 25, 2024, at 9:00**
9 **a.m.**, in Spokane Courtroom 902. All counsel trying the case must be present at the
10 pretrial conference.

11 **14. Trial**

12 The jury trial shall commence on **October 7, 2024¹, at 8:30 a.m.**, in Spokane
13 Courtroom 902. Counsel shall appear at 8:30 a.m. on the first day of trial to
14 address any pending pretrial matters. Jury selection will begin promptly at 9:00
15 a.m.

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20 ¹ Vice October 2, 2024, as stated at the Telephonic Scheduling Conference.

1 IT IS SO ORDERED.

2 The District Court Clerk is directed to enter this Order and provide copies to
3 the parties.

4 DATED August 30, 2023.



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Thomas O. Rice
THOMAS O. RICE
United States District Judge